

---

## **YOUR VIEWS: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

---

### **Save Eastern Sierra**

#### **To The Editor:**

As a 28-year resident of Santa Clarita, I was very excited to read Bill Bailey's Feb. 1 Op-ed piece about wilderness protection ("Protect the Eastern Sierra"). Bill hit the nail on the head. For decades I have hiked the Eastern Sierra and consider it part of my own backyard. I have had the special opportunity to live near highly urban Los Angeles while still being able to enjoy the Sierra's peaceful and natural lifestyle amenities.

With our population soaring, it would be wise to heed Mr. Bailey's advice and remember what makes our town special and desirable. Without our wildlands, Santa Clarita and its surroundings would just be more of the same suburbs with even more congested urban sprawl.

These nearby wild lands are our greatest local natural resource, bringing tourists, businesses, and homeowners. To leave them unprotected makes no sense environmentally and no sense economically. And there should be some consideration of wilderness designation for lands that are closer to our own area such as Magic Mountain (the real mountain), Pleasant View Ridge, Fish Canyon and even our own Placerita-Whitney-Elsmere canyon complex.

I urge Rep. McKeon to reintroduce an expanded Eastern Sierra bill because Bill Bailey is right — this is an opportunity to do something of great consequence for California and even greater for our own future here in the Santa Clarita Valley.

**Henry Schultz**  
**Santa Clarita**